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AN Hiſtorical ACCOUNT OF THE ADVANTAGES That have Accru'd to *ENGLAND*, BY THE SUCCESSION IN THE Illuſtrious Houſe of *Hanover*.

Pro Rege ſæpe, pro Republica ſemper.

LONDON:
Printed in the YEAR, 1722.

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THE ADVANTAGES OF THE *Hanover* SUCCESSION.

AS the general Proſperity of every Country redounds to the Advantage of the ſeveral Individuals in that Community; for the ſame Reaſon every private Man muſt be more or leſs a Sharer in thoſe common Calamities

that attend it: This I take to be the Foundation of that Curioſity, which prevails in moſt Men to enquire into the State and Condition of their Country, and into the Management of publick Affairs; there being nothing more natural than to enquire into the Cauſes of thoſe Events wherein we think our Intereſt is concerned. Indeed when things run on proſperouſly, and every body enjoys his Liberty and Property in ſuch a Latitude as flows from a regular Adminiſtration, and when Men are convinc'd of the Capacity and Integrity of their Governours; this Curioſity is not a little rebated, and they are then inclin'd to acquieſce in thoſe publick Benefits, without any further Enquiry into the ſecret Springs and Cauſes from whence they flow. But on the other Hand, if it evidently appears that the Intereſt of the Publick is intirely neglected, Trade given up and ſacrificed, tho' it be the very Vitals of the Commonwealth, Foreign Wars engag'd in, tho' notoriouſly deſtructive of the pub-

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lick welfare, and all other Means and Arts labour'd, in order to impoveriſh and exhauſt a Country: Such a *Criſis* as this will infallibly raiſe a Curioſity in the injur'd, to pry into the Conduct of their Superiours, and the Cauſes of ſo much Miſery; this they think their Sufferings give them a Right to do.

But the Misfortune is, that the Opportunity does not fall to every Man's Lot to diſcover the true Origin whence the Misfortunes of his Country do proceed; for things of this Nature paſs but through a few Hands, and thoſe commonly none of the honeſteſt, it being their Intereſt to conceal, as well as to act, the Crime; yet we find that things even of this Sort have often been brought to Light, either through a Remorſe of ſome of the Superior Agents, or the Honeſty of the Inferior; for ſome times it happens, that ſuch have had the publick Good of their Country more at Heart than their own private Gains. And tho' Inſtances of this Nature are very uncommon, yet, I doubt

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not, but I ſhall be able to convince every true Engliſhman, and ſome falſe ones too, who by chance may have the Peruſal of theſe Papers, that this is a Caſe which does not want a Precedent.

The preſent Condition of our Country, and the Miſeries which now bear ſo hard upon us, to the utter Ruin of many late opulent Families, and which, in the Event will be the Ruin of many more, is, in my Opinion, worth our preſent Conſideration; but, as I have already obſerv'd, Enquiries of this Nature are generally conceal'd from the Cognizance of vulgar Eyes, yet it will appear that Providence has ſo ordered it, that moſt of the Facts from whence our preſent Calamities have proceeded, are come to the Knowledge of a Perſon not diſinclin'd to do his Country Juſtice; and that the preſent Age may not be ſo far deceived as to attribute the Evils which we now ſuffer, to the bare Effect of Chance, I have thought fit to publiſh what follows, to ſhew, that on the contrary all this has proceeded from a

regular

regular Deſign, in order to bring us *low, and to make us humble*; a Virtue we are not naturally diſpos'd to, eſpecially in ſome Inſtances, wherein the Exerciſe of it will be requir'd at our Hands: For it will appear even neceſſary to the Deſigns of our preſent Superiours, that we ſhould be reduc'd to our preſent, if not a much worſe, Condition.

In this Enquiry, it will be neceſſary to look back into the firſt Sources and Origin of things, and to recal ſome Facts, that have been long ſince buried to the World and in ſome Meaſure even to the very Actors themſelves; I ſhall therefore beg leave to refreſh the Memory of ſome, and inform the Judgment of others with reſpect to certain Tranſactions that are now of above twenty Years ſtanding; not that this is abſolutely neceſſary to trace the beginning of our preſent Misfortunes, but rather that the Reader may have ſome account of the ſecret Intrigues and Paſſages that happen'd both before and after the ſettlement of

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the Succeſſion in the Illuſtrious Houſe of *Hanover*: For as theſe Papers attempt to give an Account of the Misfortunes that have accru'd to our Country ſince his preſent Majeſties Acceſſion to the Throne; the Hiſtory will be more compleat, if on the one ſide the ſecret Motives are repreſented in their true light, which induced the late King *William* the *Third* to make this ſtep; and on the other, what kind of Reception this ſettlement met with at *Hanover*, when it was firſt concerted and eſtabliſhed.

The leaſt Pretender to the Knowledge of publick Affairs muſt be ſenſible how much it is the Intereſt of the States of *Holland* to have a friend of theirs upon the Throne of *Great Britain*; and, if poſſible, even ſuch a Friend as will prefer their Intereſt to our own: For nothing can be more evident than that they are our Rivals in *Trade*, which is our *principal* and their *only* Support; and it is equally evident, that in ſuch a Competition,

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it is impoſſible almoſt, but that *England* muſt prevail, unleſs ſome ſecret powerful ſteerſman be retain'd to interpoſe and to turn the Scale to their ſide; and that the Effects of ſuch an Interpoſition have frequently been felt here of late Years, the *Turky* company may particularly be conſulted upon this Head.

The late King *William* was a native of *Holland*, and not only ſo but he had all thoſe ſtrong paſſions and reſpects for his Country, which a Virtuous Prince and a good Patriot ought to have; nor do we find that his Love for that Country was in the leaſt diminiſh'd notwithſtanding the Relation he ſtood in with reſpect to *England*.

This I think will abundantly excuſe ſome actions in that Prince, which Engliſhmen are apt to call criminal, whereas he all the while was a ſerving his own, not our Country; and this I muſt need ſay I look upon as a very ſhining Virtue in him, which our Countrymen are generally deſtitute off.

This artful Prince (for certainly ſuch he was) conſidering his own mortal condition made uſe of all thoſe prodigious Talents he was Maſter of, in order to ſerve his native Country when he himſelf was Dead and gon; and the State of Affairs in his time preſented him with a fit opportunity to continue the ſame Services, which he had with a great deal of Art perform'd all his life time; for the falſe Fears of Popery here among the great, vulgar, and the ſmall, and the Return of an injur'd Monarch among the wiſer ſort, who perhaps might labour under ſome ſcruples that look'd like Guilt, were Material ſufficient in the hands of ſo accompliſh'd a Prince in order to the Eſtabliſhment of a foreign Family in this Throne, to whom no Objections of this kind could be made. This he pruprudently judg'd to be the beſt expedient, in order to continue the Advancement of a *Dutch* Intereſt; for he thought a Foreigner could have no ſuch

Love

Love for this Country as to be ſtrictly ſollicitous for it's Intereſt's, when the Conſequences of ſuch a Management muſt be againſt his own; and therefore ſuch a Prince might eaſily be inclin'd to be cool in the Affairs of *England*, and to be willing to ſuffer a foreign Competitor to reap the Advantages of it's Commerce for; by this Means he would effectually ſecure an Ally to ſupport his Poſſeſſion of the Crown, and at the ſame time reduce the *Engliſh* Nation to ſuch a condition by the loſs of their Trade, ſo as not to be in a capacity to diſturb ſuch a Prince in the Proſecution of either his Foreign or Domeſtick intereſts.

When things are conſider'd in this Light, and with theſe views, no Family could appear ſo fit to anſwer all theſe deſigns, as well with reſpect to Religion as Politicks, as that of *Hanover*.

When this Scheme was in agitation, indeed the late Queen *Anne* ſtood in the way; but there was a ſham *Plot* contriv'd to remove that difficulty:

For

For when King *William* went into *Holland* in the year 1700, that affair was thus ſettled with the late Duke of *Zell* and the Princeſs *Sophia*: viz. That Queen *Anne* was to be taken up and ſent to the *Tower*, upon the account of a pretended Correſpondence with her Father the late King *James*; and this without doubt, as the Tide ran at that time, would have been a ſufficient inducement to exclude her from any ſhare in the advantages of the Act of Succeſſion. Further there was actually a Committee ſettled at *Weſtminſter*, conſiſting of ſuch Men as could be rely'd upon in order to ripen Meaſures how to bring the Princeſs *Sophia* into *England*; and, as the State pulſe then beat, King *William* being unavoidably, to enter into a War with *France*, the Dowry ſettled by the treaty of *Reſwick* upon the late Dowager *Mary*, King *James*'s Queen (which was 50000 *l. per Annum*) was to be appropriated to the Princeſs *Sophia*'s uſe, as well as *Somerſet*-Houſe was for her Reſidence. Theſe

Theſe are known Truths and even the vulgar were under ſome apprehenſions of deſigns of this nature againſt the late Queen; nay, there are ſeveral who to this day retain ſome Impreſſions of this ſort: And the party Scriblers of the *Tory* ſide have given broad Hints of it; tho' it is difficult to gueſs how they came by them, unleſs it was by the means of the late Earl of *Rochester*: For he was the only Perſon, as far as I can find of a different Inclination, that knew any thing of this Affair. He indeed was forewarn'd of the deſign, perhaps from the ſame Quarter that the Wind blows now; and he, after the Acceſſion of Queen *Anne*, being talk'd to upon this Subject, ſaid he was ſatisfied of the Truth of it; but he thought the Affair too dangerous to be look'd into. However it is a fact certainly known to many now alive, to whom I may appeal, that the Minutes and Memoirs of this whole Affair as Tranſacted by the afore-

aforemention'd Committee, were ſurpreſs'd by a private Order of Council.

But the unexpected death of King *William*, put an end to all theſe projects and Contrivances. However, he ſo far prevail'd as to ſecure the Succeſſion to a Foreigner, after the death of Queen *Anne*, who was even then an infirm ſickly Woman, and no way likely to have any more Children; ſo that the Project was ſo well laid, that probably it might take Effect in proceſs of time, tho' for the preſent thoſe that purſu'd the *Dutch* Intereſts were forc'd to be contented without it.

And thus we ſee upon what Foot, and in order to what deſigns the Houſe of *Hanover* was firſt eſtabliſh'd here.

I ſhall now proceed to give you an account of ſome Tranſactions at *Hanover*, juſt upon the Eſtabliſhment of the Act of Settlement, whereby it will appear, that it was not out of any Love or real concern for the Intereſt of the *Engliſh* Nation, that even the

Houſe

Houſe of *Hanover* it ſelf accepted of this Succeſſion, but purely to advance their own Intereſts abroad; and in order to this, *England* was to be reduc'd to ſuch a condition, as to be ſubſervient to it: this will appear to every Reader by what I am now a going to relate.

A little before the Death of King *William*, the late Lord *Macclesfield* was the Tool pitch'd upon to carry over the Succeſſion Act, and to preſent it to the Princeſs *Sophia*, and the Prince her Son; but they did not Receive it with that alacrity and regard to the *Engliſh* Nation, as the People on this ſide the Water were made to believe; for there were ſeveral difficulties rais'd which few Men expected. There was a Lady, a Creature of that Court, who was always liſten'd to with Attention, who repreſented "the "*Engliſh* Nation as a fickle People, "very ſubject to revolt and plot a-"gainſt their own natural Princes, "much more would their Inclinations "be that way given when under the

"Domi-

" Dominion of a Foreigner, and eſpe-
" cially of a Prince who they might
" ſuſpect to have ſome Reſentments
" againſt them for old Neglects
" and Injuries which his Family by
" the Mother ſide formerly ſuffered,
" and which were principally owing
" to their obſtinacy, and that no Fo-
" reign Prince whatſoever could pro-
" poſe to himſelf either eaſe or Hap-
" pineſs at the head of thoſe People".
Theſe were that Politick Lady's Senti-
ments of us: But my Lord Bar. *Berenſ-
dorff* interpos'd here, and being inclin'd
to be Complaiſant to the fair Sex, readi-
ly granted all ſhe had ſaid for great un-
deniable Truths; " That the *Engliſh*
" indeed were a vile Rebellious un-
" conſtant People, not worthy the
" leaſt Confidence or Truſt, yet that
" this offer of the Succeſſion was a
" thing by no Means to be Rejected,
" for tho' the *Engliſh* were a People
" of no Veracity, yet they might
" ſerve very well as Tools to advance
" the Intereſts of the Houſe of *Han-*

" *over*

" *over* abroad, and which might per-
" haps be manag'd and brought to
" ſuch an height, as to put it out of
" their own Power to do any Miſ-
" chief: That this Succeſſion would
" give the Prince a luſtre in *Germany*
" for the preſent; that if it took effect
" it would enable him to enlarge his
" Territories there; that tho' there
" ſhould be no poſſibility to gain the
" Affections of the *Engliſh*, yet there
" was no room to doubt but a Prince
" of that Houſe might eaſily make
" himſelf Maſter of their purſes,
" which would ſerve the turn as well;
" that they being a People divided
" among themſelves into Factions they
" were the more eaſily to be managed;
" that by ſeeming to countenance one
" ſide, he might at his eaſe oppreſs
" the other, and in the end drain
" both of their Money: Beſides, this
" Succeſſion would enable him to gain
" great alliances in *Europe*, and parti-
" cularly he would find himſelf court-
" ed by the two contending Houſes of

" Chriſtendom, *Auſtria* and *Bourbonne*,
" and both in their turns would be for-
" ward enough to give him their Pro-
" tection". After ſome debates of this kind it was at laſt concluded that the Succeſſion ſhould be accepted.

Theſe were the motives, and theſe the views, which at that time prevail'd, and caus'd the rejoycings of that Court. And now the Queſtion will be whether his preſent Majeſty, ſince he is ſettled in the Throne, and his faſt Friends have not all along acted with an Eye to this Scheme? but before I enter upon this, ſome things are neceſſary to be hinted at, which paſs'd during the interval of the late Queens Reign, and before this Settlement took effect.

When the Princeſs *Ann* came to the Throne, the Houſe of *Hanover* was always jealous of her Conduct, with reſpect to the Intereſts of that Family. But whether this was owing to a conſciouſneſs of the practices above mentioned, wherein they were con-

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cern'd as Principals, in order to deprive her of her turn in the Succeſſion, that they might attain their ends the ſooner; or whether they were ſenſible of ſome old Grudge of a much ancienter ſtanding, is, what is not very material to enquire into; yet very certain it is there was no good *private* underſtanding between that Family and the late Queen; for there were always *Hanoverian* Spies planted here, to watch all Motions as well of publick as private Tranſactions. Theſe jealouſies produc'd an eager deſire in thoſe abroad, and in their faſt Friends here at Home, to have the Princeſs *Sophia* and her Grandſon, the preſent Prince of *Wales*, brought over; ſo that they might gain upon the affections of the People in caſe any Attempts were made contrary to their Intereſts.

My Lord *Macclesfield* was again pitch'd upon to put himſelf at the Head of thoſe, who were for bringing this Affair about; but, as it happen'd even ſome of them who were thought

to be moſt inclin'd to joyn in this Enterpriſe, when it came to be thorughly canvaſs'd, appear'd but very cool in the Proſecution of it; for there are a conſiderable number of that Party, who are diſtinguiſh'd by the name of Whigs, that have always had quite different views from thoſe of a Foreign Succeſſion, notwithſtanding their outward, even vehement profeſſions; the true deſigns of theſe Men tending towards a Republick. Indeed they pretended at the private conferences of that party, that the Princeſs *Sophia* employ'd few or none but *Roman* Catholicks about her, and that it was probable ſhe would continue her old Servants after her Arrival here; which would not only bring an *odium* upon the Succeſſion it ſelf, but alſo upon thoſe Perſons that promoted it: Yet this was but a cloak to cover their other real deſign. My Lord *Macclesfield*, who was a truſty promoter of this Family ſaw (with the Eyes of others at leaſt) into the aims of ſome of the party, and objected

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it to them; but as he had no facts to ſupport what he ſaid, it paſs'd for nothing, and ſo the Affair in ſome Meaſure dropt. Indeed the vulgar Whigs who meant what they ſpoke, were very warm in it; but when any party, tho' otherwiſe never ſo conſiderable, are cunningly deſerted by their leaders, they can be of no very great conſequence.

I muſt needs own I think the Republican Whigs are more in the Intereſts of their Country than the others; for no doubt if ſuch a Scheme of Government prevail'd it would be more eligible and better for the Intereſt of *England* than the Dominion of a Fareigner: Becauſe ſuch a Government could have no views of a *publick nature*, but what are for the common good; there not being the ſame Temptations for ſuch Men to ſacrifice their own Country to aggrandize any other Nation.

Thoſe Whigs, that ſtrictly adher'd to the Scheme my Lord *Macclesfield* was employ'd to purſue, tho' they fail'd

fail'd in their main project to bring the Princeſs *Sophia* and her Grandſon over, yet they ſo far influenc'd Affairs as to procure a *Regency* to be eſtabliſh'd to ſecure the Kingdom for the uſe of the Houſe of *Hanover* upon the Death of the late Queen; not but that even this had a much greater effect than was expected from it by the publick and private oppoſers of the firſt propoſal.

We are now to proceed to that period when all theſe contrivances were to have the deſired effect. Upon the Death of Queen *Anne* the Generality of the Kingdom, as having an inherent Affection for new things, turn'd their Eyes to *Hanover* to be ſupply'd with a Soveraign. The *Tories* who at that time rul'd the Roaſt were always ſuſpected, thro' very unjuſtly, of a diſaffection to that Houſe: Nay King *George* himſelf was not only jealous of them in particular, but alſo of the *Engliſh* Nation in general; and therefore he ſtay'd in *Hanover* and *Holland* above ſix Weeks in order to ſee what turn

Affairs

Affairs would take here, before he ventur'd to ſet his Foot upon *Engliſh* Ground. But being at laſt encourag'd by the repeated invitations both publick and private of the leading Men of both Parties, he conquer'd his irreſolution.

Upon his Arrival in *Holland* the States took care to inſtil ſuch notions into him with reſpect to their common Intereſt, as were very inconſiſtent with that of *England*, tho' they were no other than ſuch as he had before entertain'd; and Penſionary *Heinſius* was the Man that negotiated this Affair. "He told him that he muſt not look "upon *England* as the place of his fu- "ture aboad, but rather as a place to "be us'd ſo long as it could be pre- "ſerv'd for the advancement of their "common good; that notwithſtand- "ing the Invitations he had received "from ſome of the Heads of the To- "ry ſide, they were Perſons not at all "fit to be employ'd; becauſe by that "means he would put it in their

"Power

" Power to out him at their Pleaſure;
" that the generality of them had al-
" ready laid Schemes in Favour of
" his Competitor; that Revenge, and
" their own ſecurity would oblige the
" Whigs to come into the ſame Mea-
" ſures. But if on the other Hand the
" Whigs were employ'd, all that the
" Tories would aim at would be to
" ſolicit the *French* Intereſt in Favour
" of the Pretender; but that *France*
" being at preſent Poor and low, they
" would not be ſo forward in comply-
" ing with their deſires. Beſides the
" *French* Court knowing the *Tories* to
" be Men of no Reſolution to carry
" on ſuch an Affair, they would ra-
" ther make their Court to him. And
" in Caſe the *Tories* ſhould raiſe a Re-
" bellion, he knew he was ſecure of
" the Emperour and *Dutch* for Troops
" upon all Exigencies: That this
" would give him a Handle to keep a
" ſtanding Army for the future, to
" make them ſubmit upon all occaſi-
" ons to any Loads he ſhould think fit

" to

" to lay upon them: That the only
" way to keep himſelf in the Saddle
" will be to drain them of their
" Wealth, and to cut off as much as
" poſſible, all opportunities of Trade,
" and thereby to hinder them from a
" ſpeedy Recruit; that the *Engliſh*
" were a reſtive ſtomachful People
" when in proſperity; but that they
" were mean diſpirited Souls when
" reduced to Want: That they would
" only whine, and make a little noiſe
" in their private Cabals, which was
" all he had to apprehend from them,
" when in ſuch a condition: That by
" ſtrengthening the *Dutch* with the
" *Engliſh* Trade, he only ſecured him-
" ſelf the more in the Poſſeſſion of his
" Crown, and which would ſo far en-
" able him to advance his intereſts in
" *Germany* that one day it might hap-
" pen that a *Prince of his Houſe might*
" *ſit at the Head* of the *Empire*".

Big with theſe Reſolutions, and theſe Schemes he arriv'd in *England*; where he had no ſooner ſettled him

 ſelf,

ſelf, but immediately he left no Stone unturn'd to procure Foreign alliances to ſtrengthen, not the *Engliſh* Intereſt, but his own Poſſeſſion of the Throne; as if the one were inconſiſtent with the other; being full of the former jealouſies of and Prejudices againſt us.

The Regent of *France* having particular views of his own at that time, was thought the fitteſt Perſon to make a good Brother, and a firm Ally of; for they were to be a mutual ſecurity to one another, to enable them to execute their ſeveral Deſigns and Projects.

The next project to ſecure himſelf, and carry on his Schemes was to involve us abroad, by ſending Fleets into the *Baltick* and *Mediterranean*, to drain us of our redundant humours, as well in reſpect to Men as Money; and tho' by *the Act of Settlement*, the *Engliſh* were to be engag'd in no Foreign War, but wherein the National Intereſt was concern'd, yet this was overrul'd, and the *Engliſh* have been oblig'd to engage in Wars, not only

wherein they were not concern'd themſelves, but in Wars evidently contrary to their Intereſts, and which could have no other view but to break their Trade, that it might fall into the Hands of the *Dutch*; of this nature was that with *Spain*, and the other in the *North*.

My Lord *Townſhend* and Mr. *Walpole*, we all know were a few years ago in diſgrace, but the true reaſon has hitherto been in ſome Meaſure conceal'd. They at that time had ſome remaining bowels of compaſſion for their Country, and were againſt ſuch Projects which they knew would at laſt terminate in it's Deſtruction; and it was for this reaſon that they were at that time reputed as Perſons not fit to be employ'd. But upon cooler Thoughts, when they afterwards ſaw that their Country muſt be ruin'd, whether they had a hand in it or no, they have ſince fortifyed themſelves with new Reſolutions, and on recollec-

tion thought it convenient to be ſharers in the publick booty.

There was another Project ſtarted in order to ſupport King *George* with Money, tho' very detrimental to the *Engliſh* Nation in general, and to the *Eaſt-India* Company in particular; and this was by concerting with the *Emperour* to eſtabliſh an *Oſtend* Company to interfere in our *Eaſt-India* Trade. Two and a half *per Cent* was the Price agreed upon, and which they are to pay in conſideration of this priviledge, whereas our Company pay fifteen *per Cent*; ſo that the *Oſtenders* are hereby enabled to under-ſell them at leaſt ten in the Hundred, and be ſufficient gainers too. There were ſeveral rich Merchants in the City who treated with Baron *Bothmar* to pay certain Sums of Money to King *George's* uſe for a connivance in the enjoyment of this Trade; and it will be found, as it hath hitherto been, that this Grievance will always want a remedy 'till Providence has ſo order'd it, as to put the *Engliſh*

upon

upon ſuch a Foot as to be able to purſue their own Intereſt.

This Project anſwers two great ends in the *German* Scheme, *viz.* to impoveriſh the *Engliſh*, and at the ſame time enrich the Houſe of *Hanover*.

There was another Scheme put in Execution, which tho' it did not fully anſwer the Deſigns of the Projectors, yet it had in ſome meaſure its Effect; and this was, to declare War with *Spain*, whereby his Majeſty not only propos'd to enrich himſelf, but alſo to ruin our *Spaniſh* Trade, and conſequently to impoveriſh us. The latter Part of the Project our Merchants, as well as the People in general, feel the Effects of; but the Affair of getting of Money did not ſo well ſucceed, for it was alſo concerted to ſend twelve Ships of War to intercept the *Spaniſh Galleons* in the Gulph of *Florida*, but by ſome means or another the Enemy got Intelligence of it, and took proper Methods to prevent it's ſucceeding.

The

The Intereſt of this Country was undoubtedly ſacrificed by this *Spaniſh* War, for we could have no Motives to be at variance with that Nation; but we have many that ought to incline us to uſe all honeſt Arts we can to keep them our Friends. The moſt advantagious Trade we have is allow'd to be the *Spaniſh*; and if ſo, could *England*, if it were not influenc'd by Foreign Councils, be ſo far wanting to it ſelf, as to quarrel with the only People, whom we have all the reaſon in the World to endeavour to oblige? Certainly, if it had been neceſſary for us to be concern'd in the *Spaniſh* Affairs, it had been our Intereſt to have declar'd in their Favour; this had effectually riveted us in the good Graces of that People, and ſo far ſecur'd that Trade, that it had been out of the Power of our Competitors to undermine us. The wiſer *Dutch* ſaw this, and took meaſures accordingly; but it is our Misfortune to be influenc'd by Councils that are none of our Own, and to be govern'd by thoſe

thoſe that have Deſigns upon our Liberties, our Fortunes, and every thing elſe that is dear and valuable.

But our condition is ſuch, that theſe Schemes are too lingering, too full of Delay, to do our buſineſs, there muſt be ſomething concerted more quick in the Operation; the King wanted Money to carry on his Affairs abroad, and the *Engliſh* are too long Maſters of their own Fortunes: and therefore ſome other more effectual means than thoſe above-mention'd muſt be found out to anſwer theſe Ends.

A Noble Peer that dy'd not long ago, was known to have as great a Share in the King's Affections as any Man living, and no doubt of it he deſerv'd no leſs; for there was nothing which he found the King inclin'd to, but he immediately came into it, tho' Father, Brother, Siſter, Country, or what elſe may be reputed moſt dear and valuable to Man, ſtood in the way.

About three years ago this Noble Lord, as far as his Words could be re-

collected

collected, expreſs'd himſelf to the following purpoſe, at a private Conference held at Baron *Bothmar*'s Houſe, where their *South-Sea* Scheme was firſt concerted.

" The King's Affairs (ſaid this noble Lord) are in ſuch a condition abroad, that a great Sum of Money is requiſite to ſettle them. For in the firſt place, if we conſider the untractable temper of the Czar, we muſt by ſome means or another bring to him a mor eeaſy Diſpoſition; and this muſt be done either by giving him ſuch a Sum of Money as will incline him to come into the King's Meaſures; or if this fails, we muſt endeavour to prevail with the *Port* to fall upon him, which you know cannot be attempted without a vaſt charge.

" The King is alſo advis'd to purchaſe new * Dominions contiguous with

* Macklenberg, Wiſmar.

" with his own, to accompliſh which a
" conſiderable Sum muſt be rais'd;
" this will enable his Majeſty to make
" a conſiderable Figure in *Germany*;
" this will bring all the Princes of the
" *North* into his Meaſures; and there
" will then be no fear of a new War
" in theſe Parts unleſs the King ſhould
" find it his Intereſt to promote it.

" A conſiderable Sum muſt alſo be
" rais'd and advanced to King *Auguſtus*
" the better to enable him to make
" *Poland* Hereditary; for if this can be
" compaſs'd by the Kings Means, he
" will always have it in his Power to
" keep *Franee* within Bounds, and to
" hinder it for the future from form-
" ing any Alliance prejudicial to the
" common Cauſe: Tho' we are indeed
" ſecure of that Intereſt at preſent
" having been ſome what condeſcend-
" ing to them in the Affair of the
" Quardruple Alliance.

" The *Emperour* is ſo thoroughly
" link'd in Intereſt with the King,
" that we are certain he will enter into

" any Treaty or Meaſures with him
" to the Advancement of their com-
" mon Good.

" As for the *Spaniards*, it is true
" we have quarrell'd with them, but
" that Breach may eaſily be made up,
" for the Fleet which we have de-
" ſtroy'd were only old *Engliſh* and
" *Dutch Eaſt-India* Men, not fit for
" any great ſervice; and we may eaſi-
" ly repair that Loſs by propoſing to
" build them an equal number of
" Ships in our own Docks under the
" Notion of Ships built for the *Miſſi-*
" *ſippy* Company in *France*: this will
" ſerve to blind our People here at
" home and at the ſame time put us
" upon good Terms with *Spain*.

" To anſwer theſe Ends, a conſi-
" derable Sum of Mony muſt be rais'd
" by one means or another. The
" Chancellour of the Exchequer has
" examin'd all the Projects that have
" been laid before him, and he ſays it
" is impoſſible by any new Tax to raiſe
" a fund of ten thouſand Pounds *per*

" *Annum*

' *Annum*; which is ſuch a trifle, that
' it will not anſwer his Majeſties tra-
' velling expences into *Germany*. Yet
' if we make uſe of this *South-Sea*
' *Scheme* which my Lord, the *Baron*,
' and his Majeſty have propos'd, I
' make no doubt, but we ſhall be able
' to raiſe Money enough to anſwer
' all the King's Neceſſities; and all
' Men will readily come into it be-
' cauſe of the view they have to aug-
' ment their Fortunes. The *South-Sea*
' Company have already offer'd their
' ſervice, and the leading Men among
' them have promis'd to be under
' Direction; and it is not to be doubt-
' ed but by a good Underſtanding be-
' tween the King and that Company,
' he may eaſily be furniſhed with
' ſome millions of Money to put all
' theſe projected Schemes in exe-
' cution.

" We find the Regent of *France* has,
" by ſuch a Step as this, brought the
" Treaſure of that Country into his
" own Coffers; and what can prevent

" us from doing the like? and by this
" Means we ſhall at once lay a ſure
" Foundation to enable the King to be
" Maſter both of the Purſes and Per-
" ſons of his Subjects."

Here we ſee the Aggravation of all our Misfortunes! The *South-Sea* Scheme you ſee was concerted to raiſe Money; not to diſcharge National Debts but to ſupport Foreign Intereſts, which do not in the leaſt relate to *England*. I ſhall paſs this very remarkable Speech by, without a Comment; for indeed it needs none. We are not to wonder that the Succeſs of former Crimes ſhould make thoſe that committed them, bold enough to engage in more deſperate Undertakings: for having tried their Strength that Way, they are inſpir'd with a Confidence which makes thoſe Deſigns ſeem eaſy to be put in Practice, that to others appear attended with almoſt inſuperable Difficulties.

When

When this Scheme came to make its Appearance upon the Stage, there were ſeveral Repreſentations made to this Noble Lord, in particular, of the ill Effects of it. It was demonſtrated to him, that it would in the end prove to be the Deſtruction of Credit, both publick and private; that if notwithſtanding this, they were reſolv'd to carry it, in Oppoſition to all Conſiderations whatſoever, the raiſing the Stock above 200 would infallibly prove the Ruin of the Company. His Lordſhip's Anſwer was, 'That the King's Ne-
'ceſſities were to be preferr'd before
'any Conſequences that could be ob-
'jected; that he was ſatisfied the King
'could not ſubſiſt unleſs this Project
'was promoted to the utmoſt Pitch it
'poſſibly could bear.

When it was further objected to his Lordſhip that the general Ruin it would bring along with it might happen to be detrimental to the publick Peace, and occaſion a general Diſaffection; create abundance of Fears

and

and jealouſies which would perhaps end in an open Rebellion: His Lordſhip upon this immediately reply'd, 'that when they had all the Money in 'the Kingdom in their own Hands, 'which by this Means they would 'have; there was nothing of this Na-'ture to be apprehended, but what 'might in the end turn to the Kings 'Advantage: for they had an Army 'ready, and they might have what 'further Supplys they pleas'd from 'abroad; that he would put himſelf 'at the Head of them, and that he 'doubted not but he ſhould be able 'to put a Stop to any Attempts of 'that kind: Beſides that this would 'give the King a fair opportunity to 'make himſelf abſolute when it ap-'pear'd that his *Engliſh* Subjects were 'not to be depended upon".

Whoever was truly acquainted with this noble Peer muſt be very ſenſible that he always meant what he ſpoke, and that he did not want Reſolution to execute what he had once engag'd in;

in: we have ſeen him live to accompliſh ſome part of his Project; we have ſeen it have thoſe ill conſequences which were expected from it: and if the remaining Parts of it are not yet intirely come to paſs, no body knows how ſoon they may.

To convince the World that the like Policies have prevail'd ſince the Death of this noble Lord, I ſhall take the Liberty to communicate what I learn'd from a worthy Gentleman lately arriv'd from *Germany*; who diſcourſing there with a certain Prime, Miniſter about the Deſign of the *South-Sea* Company in carrying on a Trade to *Greenland* according to the Propoſition ſo much talk'd of; this Gentleman argu'd that ſuch a Project if it ſhould ſucceed might ſo far prejudice the *Dutch*, as to induce them to break their Alliance with his *Britannick* Majeſty. To obviate this Objection his Excellency read a Paragraph out of a Letter, he receiv'd the Poſt before, from a certain Miniſter in *England*; which

which Paragraph, with two more, the Gentleman had the favour to tranſcribe in order to ſatisfy his Friends in *Holland*: They are in Subſtance as follows:

'Our Neighbours ought to take no 'Umbrage at what the *South-Sea* Com-'pany did, in relation to the *Green-'land* Fiſhery; for neither the King 'nor his Friends will attempt any thing 'in earneſt of that kind to their Preju-'dice. ------ We are under a neceſſity 'of making a Treaty with *Spain*, in 'order to amuſe them, as they have 'amus'd us all along; and the better 'to aſſiſt our faſt Friends of the Houſe 'of *Auſtria*: for tho' we ſhould not 'perform any Stipulation made with 'the *Spaniard*, we do not doubt but 'we ſhall find Excuſes enough in 'this Country from the Jealouſies 'and Emulations of the contending 'Factions to come off from ſuch 'Engagements with ſufficient Reputa-'tion. ------ In a little time, you will 'find what I hinted in all my Diſpatch-'es will prove true: The Act of In-

'demnity

‘ demnity, and ſome late Acts are In-
‘ ſtances of it: Tho’ ſome indeed mur-
‘ mur at them, yet all are ſilenced
‘ and dare not go to Law, or even
‘ open their Mouths unleſs it be over
‘ a Bottle in their private Clubs; ſo
‘ that I hope in leſs than a Year more,
‘ the King will be in a Condition to
‘ make all Parties dance after his own
‘ Pipe”.

If you recollect each paſſage con-tain’d in theſe papers, I believe you muſt think they diſcover ſuch a Scene of Iniquity and ſuch a Plot againſt the Liberties of *England*, as no Hiſtory can well paralell; but what is moſt ſurprizing is, that Natives of this Soil can put their helping Hand and contri-bute as much as in them lies to their Countries Ruin.

I am ſenſible in whoſe Hands a great Part of the Money lent upon *Stock* and *Subſcriptions* is lodg’d; and I beg leave to aſſure my Countrymen, who have not obſerv’d it, that the Riches of the Nation are ſo diſpos’d

of, as to contribute to it's further Ruin and Slavery. The Government is ſenſible that it cannot depend upon *Engliſh* Troops to compleat their deſigns, and therefore there is no Prince with whom they have enter'd into a firm Alliance, but that they have contracted for a certain Number of Troops to be in a readyneſs upon all Emergencies; not only to ſubdue the Liberties of the People, but alſo to curb and caſhire our Soldiery; for it ſeems whoever is of *Engliſh* growth or not throughly initiated among them, is upon the weak bottom of ſuſpected Credit: and the truth is, they will truſt ſuch Men no longer than 'till they can do without them; becauſe they are afraid leaſt they may happen to have ſome Remorſe about them, ſome Remains of Love for their Country.

But there is ſufficient Care taken that when his Majeſties Deſigns are ripe for Execution, he will be under no Neceſſity to depend upon the Fidelity of *Engliſh* Soldiers. The preſent King

of

of *Pruſſia* has near upon 70000 Men at this time in Pay; now I ſhould be glad to know of thoſe Gentlemen who are acquainted with the Revenues of that Crown, and the extent of thoſe Dominions, how far his *Pruſſian* Majeſty is able to keep ſuch a Number of Men in continual Pay: I am ſure, according to the beſt Computation that I have been able to make, that his *Pruſſian* Majeſty cannot conſtantly Maintain an Army of 20000 Men; and if ſo, I am ſure every conſiderate Man muſt conclude that ſome other Potentate is concern'd in the Maintaining of them. Beſides it is evident that ſuch an extraordinary Number of Troops can be of no ſervice to that Prince, ſince he is at Peace with all the World; and further, we find that thoſe Neighbours, who may ſeem to be moſt concern'd, take no Umbrage at his extraordinary Armament, being ſenſible by whom and with what Deſign they are maintain'd.

Theſe are the Facts and theſe are the Schemes I have, *at this time* thought fit to acquaint my Countrymen with, before they are involv'd in a common Ruin. I am no Party Writer; I neither prefer the Intereſts of *Whig* or *Tory*; there are in both thoſe Parties Men ſo notoriouſly vile, as no Country was ever curs'd with the like: nor are there, on the other Hand, wanting in both, Men of the Strickteſt Honour and Regard for the publick Good. What I ſay I know. Theſe little Diſtinctions amongſt us are propagated by the real Enemies of us all, by Men that have Deſigns upon our common Liberties: For I beg leave to aſſure the World that the Queſtion now is not whether *Whig* or *Tory* Church of *Englandman* or *Diſſenter* is to prevail, but between *Engliſh* Liberty and Foreign arbitrary Dominion.

If after this warning Party-Humour prevails, before publick Good, the Evils deſign'd againſt us will be our common Puniſhment.

POST-

POSTSCRIPT.

I Have forgot to mention one thing very Material to be known, which was tranſacted upon the late Peace concluded at *Utrech*. His preſent Majeſty, then Elector of *Hanover*, and his *German* Miniſters were under ſome Apprehenſions that the Affairs of *England*, would take ſuch a Turn at that juncture, that it would be no eaſy matter to unravel them; and Baron *Bothmar* was employ'd to influence the ſeveral Powers, then united in the Grand Alliance, not to come into the Meaſures of *England*, but to ſtand it out to the laſt, in Oppoſition to all Amicable Inclinations. Theſe Tranſactions had ſuch an Influence upon our Affairs, that, tho' the *Engliſh* Miniſtry bore up againſt all Oppoſition, yet this viſible partiality in the next Succeſſor to the Throne, was ſuch a Weight upon all their Meaſures, that all the real Hardſhips which this Nation

tion labour'd under from that Peace, were only the neceſſary Conſequences of the violent Oppoſition it met with in *Germany* and *Holland*, by the Intereſt of the Houſe of *Hanover*.

There are ſeveral other dangerous Contrivances now in agitation among the *Germans*, which the times will not bear to be made Publick; and I fear the Nation will ſooner feel, than know the Evils deſign'd againſt them: Nor is it conſiſtent with my preſent Safety at this juncture, to give the World any more particular Diſcoveries.

FINIS.